

## OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS

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VLA 007010

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RECEIPT ID.

ICS Program AND Budget Office

FROM

NAME

PHONE

278

SUBJECT:

SENATOR HELM'S REQUEST for info

OCA FILE

SFC Sen Helms

CLASSIFICATION/CONTROLS:

Unclassified

TOTAL PAGES

5

SITE

LIST NAME AND ADDRESS OF EACH RECIPIENT

EXTENSION

A

Room 7C21

CIA HEADQUARTERS

Deputy Comptroller

Immediate, PLEASE CALL MR.

ON EXTENSION

ICS 88-4709

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2 March 1988

Attached is AN information request from  
SENIOR HELMS. As you can see, it has a  
short due date (11 March). Thanks

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Director  
Intelligence Community Staff  
Washington, D.C. 20505

ICS 4709-88  
2 March 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: National Foreign Intelligence Program Managers

SUBJECT: Senator Helms' Request for Information

1. In a letter to the Director of Central Intelligence (copy attached), Senator Helms has requested information relating to the recent allegation by Mr. Jose Blandon that the Central Intelligence Agency and National Security Council have maintained, and/or furnished to Panamanian officials information on certain members of Congress and their staffs.

2. Please canvass your respective offices for any answers (as applicable) to the questions posed on page two of the attached letter. Negative responses are also requested. All responses are due to the Intelligence Community Staff's Legislative Liaison Office by COB 11 March 1988. Any questions regarding this request should be directed to [redacted]

[redacted]  
Edward J. Heinz  
Lieutenant General, USAF

Attachment:  
Senator Helms' Ltr Addressed to DCI

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All portions of this memorandum  
are UNCLASSIFIED

WILLIAM S. BARTLAND  
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# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6228

February 17, 1988

ER 0743X-88

The Honorable William Webster  
 Director of Central Intelligence  
 Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Director Webster:

As you know, the Committee on Foreign Relations received very significant sworn testimony last week that indicated that the CIA and the National Security Council have maintained, and/or furnished to certain Panamanian officials, information on certain Members of Congress and their staffs. Since you are charged with responsibility for all agencies under the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, I am writing to you to address these issues.

Inasmuch as Mr. Jose Blandon has appeared at the request of U.S. law enforcement agencies as a witness in major criminal procedures, his credibility appears to be high. Additionally, I have received similar reports coming from sources in other countries which parallel the sworn testimony with regard to the CIA furnishing similar information on other Senators.

I have no fear of correct information maintained on me; nonetheless, it is improper and illegal for the CIA to maintain such files. This is especially so inasmuch as the CIA has access to background check files, which include much uncorroborated data, for all security clearances.

Should a situation ever develop in which information, particularly unevaluated information, is transferred to another government, thereby interfering with the constitutional responsibility of Members of Congress and their staffs, it calls into question the integrity of our intelligence security institutions.

For these reasons, I submit the following questions, answers to which I hope can be provided in unclassified form. In answering these questions, please do not rely on files alone, since the information allegedly passed may have been passed back channel, without files being maintained. It is imperative that an internal investigation be conducted and

**all employees in contact with Panamanian government or military officials be questioned.**

**Has any employee, contract employee, or agent of the CIA -- or any other entity associated with it, including other agencies under the National Security Act of 1947, as amended -- ever maintained information -- including biographies, reports of activities, summaries of political philosophy, or other information -- on Members of Congress or their staffs? If so, which persons, when, and under what circumstances?**

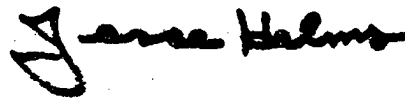
**Has any employee, contract employee, or agent of the CIA -- or any other entity associated with it, including other agencies under the National Security Act of 1947, as amended -- ever furnished verbal or written information officially or unofficially on Members of Congress or their staffs to any official of a foreign government, and specifically to the government of Panama or the Panama Defense Forces under General Manuel Noriega? If so, which persons, when, and under what circumstances? (Interestingly, I understand that after the CIA publicly denied Blandon's testimony, an inquiry was made to CIA field offices and to NFIB agencies querying whether the denial was accurate. Please include a copy of this message and all responses.)**

**Because of your previous association with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, I would also ask the following questions, also to be answered in unclassified form to the maximum extent possible.**

**Did the FBI ever turn over to the CIA or other intelligence agencies any information on Members of Congress or their staffs?**

**Has the FBI ever initiated wiretaps or surveillance on me or members of my staff, with or without warrant? If so, when, for what reasons, and under what legal authority?**

Sincerely,



**JESSE HELMS**

**SUBJECT:** Senator Helms' Request for Information [redacted]

**DCI/ICS/LL** [redacted] 2 March 1988

**Distribution:** ICS 4709-38

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 1 - [redacted]  
 1 - A/Sec/INR-State Ambassador Morton I. Abramowitz, 6531 Dept of State  
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[PBO/FBI Program Monitor [redacted] informs us that the FBI has received a letter from Helms requesting the same information contained in the last two paragraphs of the letter to the DCI. They said it is not necessary for the IC Staff to send a separate letter to them; however, they asked to be included in the distribution of this letter to the Program Managers.]